

Implementation of DOI Cost Sharing Policy For The Biological Resources Discipline FY2006

Over the past several years the Biological Resources Discipline (BRD) of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has received an average of \$25,000,000 per annum from other Department of the Interior (DOI) Bureaus and Offices to provide needed science and related research projects.

As the DOI's science agency, the USGS charges DOI bureaus a "preferred customer rate" of 15% for indirect costs related to reimbursable work. The USGS covers the remaining indirect costs with appropriated funds, thus cost sharing DOI reimbursable projects.

BRD Appropriated Funds: In a change from previous policy, from this point forward all appropriated dollars are to be handled the same way. Full indirect costs and salaries should be included in cyclical fund project budgets. This includes: FWS Science Support, Park Monitoring, National Resource Preservation Program, Minerals Management Service Offshore studies, Quick Response, and Park-Oriented Biological Support.

Cost Share Allocations: Each fiscal year, BRD will identify a pool of funds to be used for DOI cost share based on the previous year's DOI reimbursable effort. To the extent feasible, BRD will adjust the level of cost share funding each year commensurate with opportunities, priorities, and competing demands. The Associate Director for Biology will set aside funds to supplement the amounts initially allocated to cost centers. These reserve funds, equal to at least 10 percent of what we cost shared the previous fiscal year, will be used to assist cost centers that have depleted their initial allocated funds.

The USGS will continue its migration toward a more equitable split between Headquarters and the cost centers of the 15% for indirect costs from DOI customers. The scheduled migration is as follows:

	Headquarters	Science Centers
FY 2004	11%	4%
FY 2005	10%	5%
FY 2006	9%	6%
FY 2007	7.5%	7.5%

Salaries: Consistent with the USGS principle of full project cost accounting, salaries will be charged to all projects. If a project will benefit USGS as well as the customer, cost centers may choose to use USGS appropriated funds to jointly fund the direct costs of reimbursable projects too, including salaries. This applies to both DOI reimbursable projects and those projects funded by USGS appropriated dollars for DOI projects.

Cost centers throughout the USGS, regardless of their Discipline affiliation, will be required to follow the cost share policies stated above with respect to DOI reimbursables.

Facilities: In FY 06, Biology will continue to have a waiver for charging DOI customers facilities and guidance will be provided prior to the beginning of FY 07.